NEWS LETTER

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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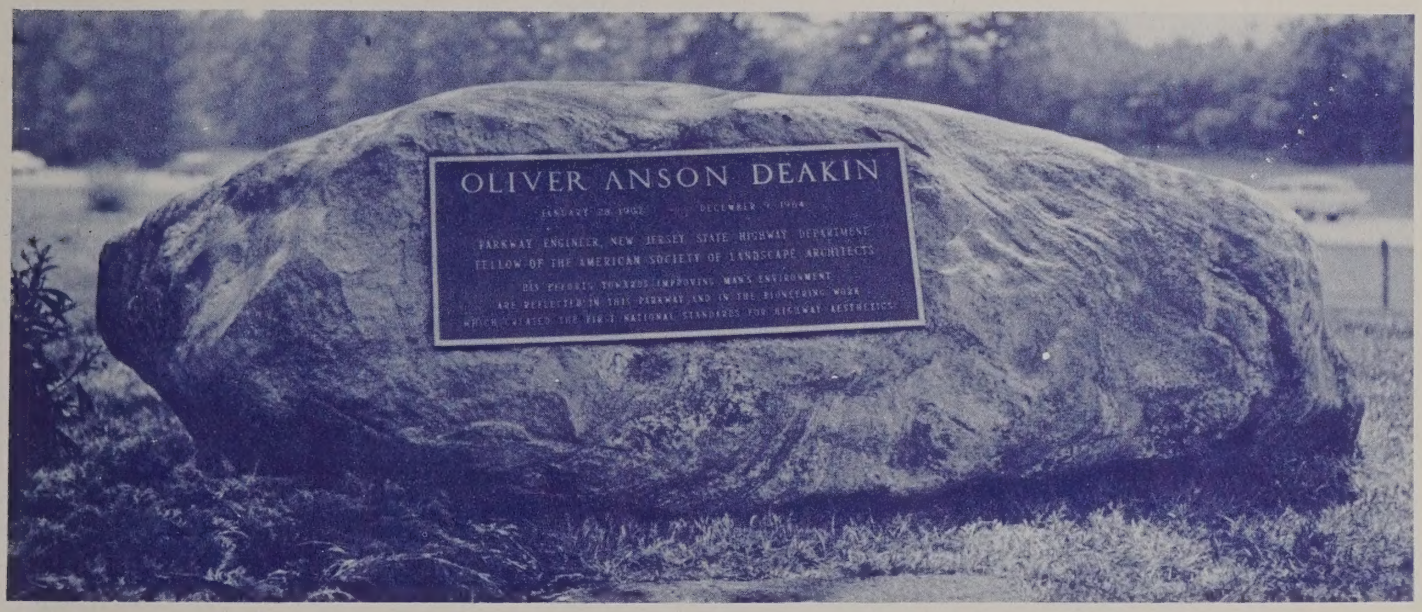

MEMORIAL UNVEILED TO OLIVER A. DEAKIN

A memorial was unveiled June 5 to the late Oliver A. Deakin, who for 27 years had served the Department with distinction as a landscape architect. The memorial is located in the Madison Hill overlook on the state-owned section of the Garden State Parkway in Clark Township, Union County. The overlook is on the northbound roadway, north of Route 27 near Milepost 134. Assistant Commissioner, Russell H. Mullen, principal speaker at the ceremony, warmly praised Mr. Deakin for his pioneering efforts in the field of highway landscaping. Mr. Deakin, who lived at Holly Hill Farm, South Plainfield, had also served the Federal Government for five years in the Forest Service. He played an important role in selection of alignment of the Parkway so it would take advantage of natural features and vegetation. In 1941 when the Highway Department formed a new division to design and construct the parkway, Mr. Deakin was placed in charge of scenic design and landscaping. He also played a major role in the development of the New Jersey portion of the Palisades Interstate Parkway in Bergen County.

TRANSPORTATION - A SIX-MONTH APPRAISAL

Commissioner David J. Goldberg last week addressed the Advertising Club of New Jersey in Newark on "Transportation - A Six-Month Appraisal." The Commissioner gave "a preliminary accounting" of the Department's first six months and "a look ahead at some of our future concerns."

In the area of highways, he announced that in the first six months of this year, the Department will have entered into or advertised for more than $82 million in construction contracts and the total for the current fiscal year will be at a record $130 million.

The Department is gearing itself to meet its highway responsibilities and can guarantee construction of a modern freeway system in less than six years which would greatly reduce congestion in our urban areas assuming that adequate construction funds are made available at the proper time, the Commissioner said.

Turning to the question of finances, he noted that the cost of solving our transportation problems at the present time far outstrips the resources that we are in a position to allocate to them.

He reviewed efforts in the past decade to achieve financial solutions to our transportation problems. In 1959 Governor Meyner's proposal to use surplus Turnpike funds to finance railroad and highway programs was defeated at a public referendum and four years later voters also rejected a $475 million bond issue which Governor Hughes had urged for highway construction.

While more than $100 million a year raised by highway user taxes in the state are being diverted for non-transportation purposes, the Commissioner doesn't believe this practice can be halted "without first determining how to handle the deficits which would be created in the areas where this money is now allocated. While our transportation problems are serious, I do not think they can be resolved at the expense of other existing State programs," he said.

The Commissioner also listed significant achievements by the Department in the area of public transportation.

43 HONORED FOR SERVICE

Last Friday and Monday Commissioner Goldberg presented service awards to 43 employees in recognition of the length of service. I. O. Doll, Assistant Highway Engineer, was honored for 35 years' service. Senior employee in the group was Edward Ristow, Supervisor of Records, 45 years.

DIVISION OF MAINTENANCE AND EQUIPMENT

40 years. Charles C. Platt, Bridge Repairman; Joseph Walder, Heavy Equipment Operator, Clifford Hulse, Mechanic; Edward MacCabe, Foreman Mechanic; William Miller, Foreman, Highway Maintenance; James Walter, Assistant Engineer; James Flavin, Principal Clerk. 35 years. James Damato, Maintenance Man; Irven VanSant, Truck Driver; Lawrence Cansel, Truck Driver; Michael Murdza, Assistant Foreman; Zygmunt Babecki, Maintenance Man; Ernest Betson, Truck Drive; Anthony Pasquito, Construction Repairman; John Pocino, Construction Repairman; John Civansky, (Retired) Equipment Operator; Lawrence Lore, Foreman, Equipment Operator; Joseph Jablonsky, Assistant Foreman; Charles Moore, (Retired) Foreman; James Babcock, Assistant Dist. Supv.; Anthony Franscalla, Foreman; Harry Butterfoss, Foreman; Rudolph Peterson, Dist. Supt.; Arthur Willmott, Assistant Dir. Div. Maint. & Oper.

DIVISION OF CONSTRUCTION

35 years. Lawrence Zazzo, Prin. Engineer; 40 years. Austin Schenck, Highway Engineer.

DIVISION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY

20 years. James V. Hyde, Jr., Dir. of Right-of-Way. 40 years. Milton Cole, Prin. Title Examiner; Velt B. Sams, Assistant Title Officer; William Schanck, Assistant Title Officer; Vincent Rebbeck, Title Officer.

DIVISION OF DESIGN

35 years. Ralph Perry, Prin. Engineer; Frank Schmidt, Prin. Engineer.
40 years. Henry Stephan, Prin. Engineer; William Bloss, Suprv. Hwy. Eng.

DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AID

35 years. Harvey Wallace, Highway Engineer; George Kraus, Suprv. Hwy. Engineer. 40 years. John Frascella, Prin. Engineer.

DIVISION OF MATERIALS 35 years. Edward Baumann, Prin, Eng. Aide; Stephen Druzbacky, Sr. Engineer. DIVISION OF PLANNING 35 years. Werner Sonntag, Highway Engineer.

WE MET OUR QUOTA!

The Department met its goal of 65% enrollment in the Savings Bond drive--up from 43% last year. The 51% increase reflects the wholehearted support given Governor Hughes as National Chairman of all state government campaigns and Commissioner Goldberg as Chairman for the New Jersey state employees drive. Congratulations to all who worked so hard in the campaign, and special congratulations to those who enrolled in a program that will return direct benefits to them. Remember, you can enroll anytime by calling Paul DeHaas at 609-292-3059.

LEGISLATION LEADS TO ACTION

The State Aid Road System Act of 1967 places in the Department of Transportation the responsibility for "establishing and maintaining a comprehensive and functionally integrated system of county and municipal roads."

Transportation Commissioner David J. Goldberg has asked the presidents of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities and the N. J. Association of Chosen Freeholders to designate a committee of not more than five members which could serve as an advisory group to assist the Department in carrying out its responsibilities with regard to the inclusion of local roads within the State Aid Road System.

ENGINEER FROM INDIA JOINS DEPARTMENT

M. V. "Jack" Jagonnath has joined the Division of Research and Evaluation's Bureau of Safety and Traffic as an assistant engineer. Jack is a native of Bongalore, South India. He received his engineering degree from the University College of Bongalore. Before coming to the United States, he was a partner in the construction firm of M. V. Veerappa and Sons in Bongalore. Jack, who is 34, is a graduate student in civil engineering at the University of West Virginia. He is married and has three children.